Volume 21, Edition 4 April 2017

Valley of the Moon Amateur Radio Club WIRELESS

NEXT MEETING
Wed, April 19, 2017, 7:30pm
City of Sonoma EOC,
Sonoma Police Department
Topic: Planning for Hamfest

VOMARC Meeting Minutes March 15, 2017

Called to order at 19:35ish by our Supreme Leader KG6N!

KD6FIL (Dave), KG6QNT (Eileen), W1EJ (Ed), KJ6QIQ (Scott), WA6CRB (Dan), AK6RF (Matt), KE6HID (Andrew), KF6FZM (Dick), KG6N (Frank), NJ6E (Stan), WD6BOR (Darrel), KA2QQO (Declan), KA5WSS (Robert), N7PIB (San), K6KLL (Alan), K6UUW(Jim), WB6TMH (Mike),

Introductions.

Minutes approved for February.

Treasures report: We have $2243.01. It was suggested that we send an SASE to all members who owe dues to see if we can collect.

ACS: Level one training was scheduled for April 1 but was postponed until May to allow more people to complete the prerequisites.

Upcoming VE session at the Hamfest on April 29.

Old Business:

Hamfest: The jobs signup sheet is out. We need help to make the hamfest happen. The most labor intensive thing is the breakfast. We would like two groups of 6 to help out in the kitchen. Ed and Jim volunteered to make the supply run again this year. Frank is handling the club swap table and plans to move it out to the parking lot. We still need help with registration and the talk in. We will be sending out the jobs sheet to get people signed up. Law enforcement/Fire get a free breakfast. This is supposed to be fun. If not we need to make changes.

New Business:

The club repeater, W6PE, is moving to the tower at WD6BOR and the call sign is changing to W6AJF. The move is scheduled for Saturday, April 8.

We are looking for a field day tower. Darrel volunteered to build a tilt base if we bring the tower to his hanger. Frank has a line on a tower.

We need to reach out to visitors that check in on the club net. It was suggested that we send a club QSL card out with contact information.

Meeting was adjourned at 2010ish.

Robert, KA6WSS, had a presentation on the 2014 WTRC held in New England.

—Respectfully submitted by Dave KD6FIL

W6AJF Repeater in its new Home



The repeater was moved on April 8 to the home of WD6BOR. KD6RC came over and completed the time consuming and painful process of getting the repeater operational on the internet. Thanks to Jeff and Darrel.

—Submitted by Dave KD6FIL

Loomis Swap Meet Haul



—Submitted by Dave KD6FIL

FOR SALE

Yaesu FT 1000MKV transceiver fully loaded with filters. Asking $1250.00

Call **Frank (225-1133**) or **Jim (935-7441)** for more details.

ARRL Entry-Level License Committee Digs in to Study Survey Results

As its April 7 online survey deadline approaches, the ARRL Board of Directors' Entry Level License Committee is preparing for a deep dive into what turned out to be an overwhelming response. Committee Chair and New England Division Director Tom Frenaye, K1KI, said the survey's 8,000 responses, when perhaps 1,500 were anticipated, reflects the high degree of interest in the overall topic. Established by the Board in 2016, the Committee has been gathering input from the Amateur Radio community with an eye toward recommending either a makeover of the Technician license or an altogether new entry-level Amateur Radio license class.

"I think it's our job to come up with the two best proposals," said Frenaye, conceding that the committee's work is fraught with details that include reaching a



ARRL New England Division Director Tom Frenaye, K1KI, at the January 2017 Board of Directors meeting. New England Division Vice Director Mike Raisbeck, K1TWF, is seated behind him. [Steve Ford, WB8IMY, photo]

consensus both within the Amateur Radio community and at the FCC, which pays little attention to Amateur Radio generally. For his part, Frenaye started out thinking that a new entry-level license would be the answer, but now he's leaning more toward changing up the Technician license, in part because he thinks the FCC may be reluctant to create a fourth license class after whittling the number to three in 1999.

It's not just about numbers, but Amateur Radio's future. Amateur Radio growth, at approximately 1% a year, is "pretty good," Frenaye conceded, and in tune with US population growth, but he thinks it could be better, and a big step in that direction is to take a hard look at ham radio's entry gate. He suggested a new pool of prospective radio amateurs might be more drawn to the hobby from the Maker movement, for example, or from among those who tinker with computer technology or experiment with electronics -- areas with high appeal to some young people.

(From ARRL 4/6 Newsletter)

—Submitted by Jim K6UUW

Midway and Kure Islands Placed on List of Deleted DXCC Entities

Midway and Kure Islands have been placed on the list of deleted DXCC entities, effective as of August 26, 2016. This came about as an unintended consequence of action last summer by then-President Barack Obama that expanded the PapahÄnaumokuÄkea Marine National Monument to include the northwestern Hawaiian Islands west of Ni'ihau Island, making it the largest contiguous protected conservation area under the US flag.

(From 4/6 newsletter)

ARRL Reiterates its Case for New Band at 5 MHz

In comments filed on March 20 with the FCC on its own January *Petition for Rule Making* (RM-11785), ARRL reiterated its case for a contiguous secondary 15-kHz wide, 60-meter band of 5,351.5 to 5,366.5 kHz in addition to the four existing discrete 60-meter channels that fall outside the requested band, with a permitted power level of 100 W EIRP and retention of current operating rules. More than 5 dozen comments, all supporting the proposed allocation, were filed on the League's petition. While some suggested more spectrum or higher power, or a combination, ARRL said in its comments that it does not at this time favor any changes in its initial request for a new band. The League proposal would implement a portion of the *Final Acts* of World Radiocommunication Conference 2015 (WRC-15) that provided for a secondary international amateur allocation of 5,351.5 to 5,366.5 kHz at a maximum of 15 W EIRP.

(From 3/23 ARRL newsletter)

—Submitted by Jim K6UUW

ARRL Weighs In on New California "Driving While Wireless" Statute

ARRL is recommending that Amateur Radio be specifically excluded from a California statute prohibiting the use of "wireless communication devices" while driving. ARRL Southwestern Division Vice Director Marty Woll, N6VI, is taking point on the effort to revise the statute, known by its legislative bill number AB 1785. It was signed into law last September, and it took effect on January 1, amending §23123.5 of the state's Vehicle Code.

(From ARRL 3/16 newsletter)

—Submitted by Jim K6UUW

IPHONE straight key

Al, K7NHV, suggests the iPhone app MorseKey, described as "... a very simple touchscreen-based Morse Code straight key." You can download it for free from the App Store. (Ward, N0AX)

From ARRL Contest newsletter,4/5)

—Submitted by Jim K6UUW

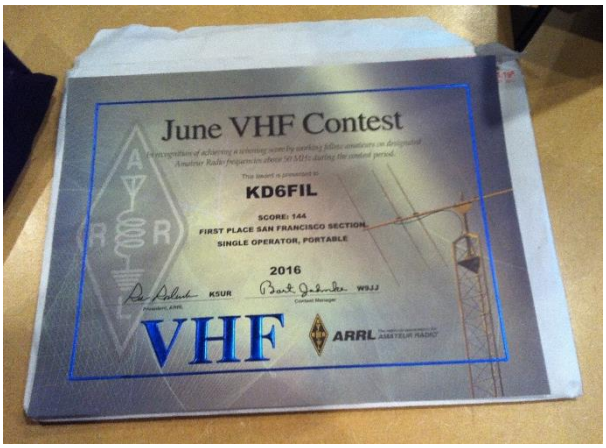
K3 owners

Al, W6LX, has put together a K3 AGC White Paper (PDF) describing how the AGC system on the Elecraft K3 works, and how changes in various settings affect the AGC.

(from 4/5 ARRL Contest Newsletter)

—Submitted by Jim K6UUW

Another Contest Winner!



It does not take big power to compete in a contest. I entered the June 2016 VHF Contest and won the SF section low power catagory. It can be fun to set up a portable station for a day and see how many contacts you can make. Give it a try, you never know, you might win!

—Submitted by Dave KD6FIL

THE VOMARC WIRELESS

VOLUME 21 EDITION 4

A publication of VOMARC, the Valley of the Moon Amateur Radio Club – W6AJF

Frank C. Jones – W6AJF

Honorary President in Perpetuity

CAST OF CHARACTERS

Frank Wiebusch KG6N — President

Scott Wellington KJ6QIQ —Vice President

Dave Dammuller, KD6FIL – Secretary

Eileen Adams, KG6QNT – Treasurer

Mike Miller, WB6TMH – Radio Officer

Moe Llanes, KI6JNU – ACS Unit Leader

Sanford Smith, N7PIB – VE Liaison

Jim Hill, K6UUW – Elmer Coordinator, Training Officer, President Emeritus

Ken McTaggart, N6KM – Station Trustee for W6AJF

Eileen Adams, KG6QNT – Webmeistress, Editor

"Receipt of the Wireless is one of the most sought after benefits of membership in VOMARC."—S. Marler

CLUB MEETINGS are held on the third Wednesday of each month at the City of Sonoma Police Department EOC 175 1st St West. Meetings start at 19:30 local (7:30 P.M.).

WEB PAGE: **http://www.vomarc.org/**

Nets are held every Wednesday night at 19:30 (7:30 P.M.) local, except meeting nights on the 145.350 repeater, -600 kHz, PL 88.5 Hz.

ACS holds a net each Monday evening at 19:30 local on the 146.205, +600, PL 88.5 Hz repeater.

PACKET STATION INFO: The VOMARC packet station is off the air until further notice.

CLUB BREAKFASTS are held on the first Saturday of each month at Black Bear Restaurant, 201 W Napa St, #34 (Marketplace Shopping Center), Sonoma. The fun starts at 08:30 local.

Comments and submissions of material may be sent to:

Eileen@vom.com

—or—

Valley of the Moon ARC, Inc.
C/O Sonoma Police Department
175 First Street West
Sonoma, CA 95476

2017 ACS
Net Control Assignments

	Name	Call
JANUARY	MOE	KI6JNU
FEBRUARY	JIM	KJ6UUW
MARCH	SCOTT	KJ6QIQ
APRIL	JIM	K6UUW
MAY	DICK	KF6FZM
JUNE	MOE	KI6JNU
JULY	KEN	N6KN
AUGUST	GILL	KJ6EIG
SEPTEMBER	SAM	W5LTP
OCTOBER	DICK	FK6FZM
NOVEMBER	MIKE	WB6TMH
DECEMBER	DARREL	WD6BOR

2017 VOMARC
Net Control Assignments

	Name	Call
JANUARY	SCOTT	KJ6QIQ
FEBRUARY	JIM	K6UUW
MARCH	MOE	KI6JNU
APRIL	DAVE	KD6FIL
MAY	ED	W1EJ
JUNE	FRANK	KG6N
JULY	MOE	KI6JNU
AUGUST		
SEPTEMBER	SAM	W5LTP
OCTOBER	DICK	KF6FZM
NOVEMBER	MIKE	WB6TMH
DECEMBER	DARREL	WD6BOR

THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE THE APRIL 19, 2016, 7:30PM,

CITY OF SONOMA EOC, SONOMA POLICE DEPARTMENT, 175 1ST ST W, SONOMA, 95476

SEE YOU THERE.

VOMARC MEMBERSHIP 2017

Membership Dues: $15/year individual; $5/year family member at same address.

VOMARC encourages its members to join the ARRL. More information is available at www.arrl.org.

QST is available to blind and physically handicapped individuals on audio cassette from the Library of Congress, National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped. Call 1-800-424-8567.

Name: _____ CALL:_____EMAIL:_____

Address:_____APT:_____

City: _____State:_____ ZIP:_____

Name: _____ CALL:_____EMAIL:_____

Name: _____ CALL:_____EMAIL:_____

VOMARC Membership: Complimentary with Class—Date: _____

Membership Moment, From the Database Queen:

Dues may be mailed to VOMARC in care of the Sonoma Police Department, 175 1st St West, CA 95476, or brought to the next meeting. Your check should be made payable to: **VOMARC.**